

Message Text

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CU:LTSTULL (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:OEXC, RO, US

SUBJECT: CLUJ-ILLINOIS EXCHANGE

REF: BUCHAREST 4632

1. ON RECENT VISIT TO URBANA CU/EE DIRECTOR MET WITH PROFESSOR KEITH HITCHINS TO DISCUSS HIS NEGOTIATIONS WITH CLUJ ON UNIVERSITY-TO-UNIVERSITY EXCHANGE.

2. HITCHINS SAID THAT AGREEMENT HAD BEEN SIGNED BY ILLINOIS OFFICIALS AND MAILED TO RECTOR PASCU IN DECEMBER 1974, AND ILLINOIS HAD HOPED TO START EXCHANGE IN FALL 1975. DUE TO DELAY IN ROMANIAN SIGNATURE, ILLINOIS HAS NOW LOST FUNDS IT HAD RESERVED FOR THE PROGRAM THIS FALL, BUT IS HOPEFUL OF STARTING IT DURING SECOND SEMESTER (WHICH BEGINS JANUARY 19) OR IN AUGUST 1976. IF ROMANIANS WISH TO START EXCHANGE IN JANUARY, ILLINOIS NEEDS EARLY SIGNATURE OF AGREEMENT.

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3. HITCHINS WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN MOVING THIS PROPOSAL FORWARD. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO CITE CSCE FINAL ACT WHICH CALLS FOR DIRECT UNIVERSITY-TO-UNIVERSITY EXCHANGES.

4. ILLINOIS NOW IN FIFTH WEEK OF CLASSES AND UNABLE RECEIVE TRIFU FOR FALL SEMESTER BUT LOOKS FORWARD TO HAVING HIM FOR SECOND SEMESTER. EXPECTED ARRIVAL DATE AT URBAN WILL BE SENT SEPTEL IN NEXT FEW DAYS. INGERSOLL

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